Mitigation in the EU, globally and in the spirit of the upcoming UN Climate Conference in New York

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What I will cover

- Global action – where do we stand?
- Next steps – review under the “NDC Cycle”
- The EU situation
Where do we stand?

2100 perspective

Source: CAT (2018)
Where do we stand?

2030 perspective

Where do we stand? Who’s doing what…

Governments must strengthen their Paris targets

Governments are scheduled to update their Paris Agreement targets (NDCs) by 2020 and must be ambitious. To keep the 1.5°C goal alive, they need to take radical steps and halve global emissions by 2030.

The vast majority of countries have insufficient targets that must be improved.
Where do we stand?

More is possible!
Renewable energy prices going down
NDCs in the Paris Agreement

“Each Party shall prepare, communicate and maintain successive nationally determined contributions (NDC) that it intends to achieve.”
(Art. 4.2)

“Each Party shall communicate a nationally determined contribution every five years (…) and be informed by the outcomes of the global stocktake referred to in Article 14.”
(Art. 4.9)
The „NDC Cycle“ = Ambition Mechanism

<= 1) Here is what I can contribute!

<= 2) Are we doing enough?

3) Can I do more? =>
Parties were invited to communicate intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs) in advance of COP 21.

Parties were invited to communicate their first NDC no later than ratification time.

Communicated INDC became the first NDC, unless Party decides otherwise.

Parties shall submit their NDC for each cycle at least 9 to 12 months in advance of the relevant session = early 2020…

Submission of 2nd NDC Update

And so on …
The Paris Agreement is a gamble… has no guarantees

• How can it be made to work?
  ‣ Step-by-step approach
  ‣ Political nudging
  ‣ Exchange experience, build capacity
  ‣ Success stories: show it can be done…
  ‣ Create political opportunity moments…
UN Climate Action Summit 2019
Who is willing to do more?

India and France “reaffirmed their commitment to update their nationally determined contributions in a manner representing a progression beyond the current one and reflecting their highest possible ambition.”
- Joint statement, August 2019

China committed to update its climate target “in a manner representing a progression beyond the current one”.
- Press statement, June 2019
Who is willing to do more?

Switzerland is planning on enhancing its national climate objectives for 2030 to achieve climate neutrality by 2050.  
- NZZ, August 2019

Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Iceland signed a declaration, committing to step up climate ambition by 2020 and enhance their NDCs.  
- Declaration on Nordic Carbon Neutrality, January 2019
Global Net Zero Targets

Source: ECIU (2019)
So, what about the European Union?

The EU has been developing climate policy for 30 years

- EU started with climate change as a policy issue 30 years ago
- Linkages to UN level, often as a pioneer & influencer
- Emissions targets combined with renewables and efficiency
- TOOLBOX full of policies and measures developed
Figure ES.1  EU progress towards 2020 climate and energy targets

Source: EEA Greenhouse gas emission trends and projections in Europe 2017
EU GHG targets over time

Source: EEA 2018
Who is willing to do more?

The **European Parliament** and a number of **EU member states** have already called for increasing the 2030 target to a 55% reduction. – *EP, May 2019*

“Along with our climate-neutrality commitments for 2050, we have to be more ambitious when it comes to our 2030 emission reduction target. **This should increase to at least 50% by 2030, up from the 40% currently agreed.**”

Mission letter on “Green New Deal” by **Ursula von der Leyen**, President-elect of the European Commission
Essential messages

• The current level of global climate action is **insufficient** to stay below 2C

• More is possible, as **renewable energy becomes cheaper** than other sources

• The Paris Agreement provides a **framework** for continuous improvement

• Political **nudging** and incentives needed to get countries to do more

• **Signals exists** already from around the world for additional action

• **Support is growing** for an increase in ambition in the EU
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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